



100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc

An Oregon 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

Spring 2018 | Issue 75

Kasey's Corner

2018 is off to a great start for Umpqua Watersheds thanks to hard work by our staff, board of directors and volunteers. In November of last year the Board of Directors had its strategic planning meeting where we had the opportunity to review and discuss the progress made on the strategic plan that was established three years ago. Two areas of improvement we discussed was the need to establish regular office hours again and the importance to follow a governing structure outlined by organizational consultant Gary Smiley which defined roles of committees, staff and the board of directors.



Umpqua Watersheds currently has 7 standing committees; Conservation, Education, Facility, Finance, KQUA Radio, Restoration and our Wild on Wilderness (WOW) committee. These committees meet at least once a month to carry out their charter and provide reports to the Board of Directors. We also have ad hoc committees for special events such as the annual membership banquet, River Appreciation Day and the Umpqua Brew Fest. It is amazing to see how well our committees work and the progress they make to move UW forward in the quest to achieve our strategic goals and our mission to protect and restore the Umpqua Watershed and beyond through education, advocacy and ecologically sound stewardship. That being said, we need more help! Please consider volunteering for our committees if you have interest and expertise that you believe can help.

Welcome to our new Office Manager, Melanie MacKinnon, who grew up in Juneau, AK and moved to Roseburg in 2008. Even then, she was no stranger to Roseburg, as she visited her grandparents here when she was young. She received her B. A. from Western Washington University and has a passion for solar energy, energy efficiency, and our local community. MacKinnon Energy Solutions is Melanie's own consulting business where she is an energy consultant and grant writer. She is a certified Solar Photovoltaic Technician and is a Board member of Douglas County Global Warming Coalition. Melanie has been significantly involved in several volunteer groups and events including the DC Smart Energy Group, Green Energy and Solar Tour, and Earth Day and Energy Fair. Her office hours are 1-5 M-W, 9-1 Th-F. Stop in and say "hi" to our newest staff member.



Our Annual Membership Banquet and Auction will be on April 14 at Umpqua Community College. Our keynote speaker will be Chuck Willer from the Coast Range Association will speak on "Challenging **Wall Street Forestry**." His presentation will focus on the connection between investment resource extraction,

"management" practices to push monoculture tree plantations and their impact on land, water, wildlife and humans.

Tickets will go on sale by March 15th. The Banquet Committee meets on Thursdays at 6:30pm. We need help securing items for the auction. If you have items to donate please stop by the office or contact Melanie at



melanie@umpquawatersheds.org. All items are tax deductible. The banquet and auction have been one of UW's major sources of funding so we need your support!

In July of last year Umpqua Watersheds took ownership of our building. We are still so amazed and grateful for this donation. With ownership comes responsibility and our Facilities Management Committee spends many hours each month working with our tenants, planning and making repairs and working to the building.

Finally, I want to say thanks to everyone who donated to Umpqua Watersheds during our year end appeal. The response was amazing and we are very grateful to everyone who stepped up and made a contribution and/or renewed. I am so proud and grateful for the opportunity to be associated with Umpqua Watersheds. We have many challenges ahead of us but with determination, hard work and collaboration we will continue to be a force for good in our community.

Umpqua Watersheds Banquet and Silent Auction

April 14, 2018, 5-10 pm

UCC Campus Center

Cost \$30 (\$35 at the door)

Our Mission:

Umpqua Watersheds is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed and beyond through education, training, advocacy and ecologically sound stewardship.



Restoration Committee

No Water - No Life

It is obvious that water is one of the most critically important elements of creation. It is not so obvious that it is one of the most threatened elements

that restoration ecologists and enthusiasts see on the horizon. Throughout the Pacific Northwest, the challenges facing our culture and the natural world focus intensely on the abundance, availability, and quality of water. We are seeing a steady and steep decline of hydrological processes, water utilization and ecosystem functions that support cool clean water.

Beaver to the Rescue

Umpqua Watersheds has been a longtime advocate for re-establishing beaver ecology in wetland and ecosystem recovery. There is overwhelming scientific evidence that beaver are a linchpin species that are important for a diverse ecosystem to support wildlife and hydrological processes. UW has a library full of research showing the benefits of beaver to the entire web of life. They are nature's wetland engineers, purifying and maintaining the water supply. Recently, there have been studies quantifying the carbon and nitrogen stored in beaver ponds. Other studies have clearly shown that the shortage of water with high water temperatures in our watersheds is directly related to the extirpation of the beaver. They were a functional part of ancient ecosystems long before European trappers removed them.

Beaver - Are They Or Are They Not, OK?

Federal agencies such as NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service have a long history of data showing the importance of beaver in the recovery of threatened and endangered fish. Without the influence of beavers on our waterways, recovery of Coho salmon and other salmonids and aquatic species will likely not happen. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has been discussing the real value of beaver ecology to the public. It is well known that the ESA listed Spotted Frog is in serious jeopardy because beaver have been removed from their native watersheds.



So What's The Problem?

At times, government agencies can have conflicting ideas of how to approach wildlife conservation and restoration. As a society, we tend to ignore wildlife until an ecosystem collapse forces us to confront the damage done. Recently, I have collaborated to challenge the characterization of beavers by the federal government and the public. APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-the Federal agency charged with killing "nuisance" wildlife) has been funded for many years to kill beaver. Schools and libraries are closing in our community while tens of thousands of Oregon Secure Rural Schools Act Title III dollars are spent needlessly trapping wildlife in our region including our ecosystem engineers, the beaver. We are undermining aquatic hydrological processes by doing so. Government scientists have proven beaver ecosystem services need to be restored yet tax dollars are spent trapping and removing beaver. Much of this is a direct result of conflict between those agencies that are charged protecting the natural world and agencies charged with maximizing the economic output of the agriculture industry.

UW, in cooperation with a legal team from several conservation groups, has recently filed a notice of intent to sue APHIS for not consulted with appropriate agencies under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Section 7, called "Interagency Cooperation," must be utilized when the action of an agency impacts a species under the ESA. Those agencies responsible for protecting ESA listed species must decide what the threatening agency can or cannot do. APHIS has been killing beaver without consultation for some time. As a result of the intent to sue, APHIS has agreed to cease killing beaver in most cases until



the process of consultation is completed. That's good news for now. Why is this important keystone species killed in the first place? They are responsible for damage to private property by gnawing ornamental and fruit trees, blocking culverts, and flooding roads. But, flooding is an important part of ecosystem recovery

Board of Directors

Stan Petrowski-President/Restoration Chair
J. Patrick Quinn-Vice Pres./Conservation Chair
Diana Pace-Secretary/Volunteer coordinator
Kat Stone-Treasurer

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John Hunter-DC Park Chair/
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Bob Hoehne- WOW Chair

Staff

Kasey Hovik-Executive Director
Melanie MacKinnon-Office Manager
Christine Smith-AmeriCorps
Patrick Schneider- KQUA Program Director
Robbin Schindele- CLW Coordinator

by providing riparian connectivity. There are solutions without resorting to the lethal removal of beaver. These short-term solutions come with long-term negative impacts. Pressure from the agricultural industry is influencing policy toward beavers at the federal level, in particular, APHIS.

What Next?

Historically, beavers were designated “fur bearers”. To facilitate the elimination of beaver, the State of Oregon has re-designated them a “nuisance” “predator”! Beaver were also designated “rodents” to characterize them as useless animals standing in the way of progress. UW and regional conservation institution partners are supporting international efforts to raise awareness of virtues of this species through dissemination of scientific literature and presentations at conferences and workshops. We cannot restore our watersheds without beaver. Our task is to declare them as a focal keystone species by redefining their role and function in the restoration of hydrologic ecosystems. Our colleagues, particularly in Eastern Europe, are way ahead of us in working to restore the beaver ecosystem. Poland, for instance, has repopulated beaver in its entire national aquatic ecosystem.

Oregon-The Beaver State

We are the beaver State; we have a golden beaver on our flag. Gold coins (specie) minted in Oregon during the early and mid-1800's were called “beaver money”. They had the same value as beaver skins. In the pressure of daily life most of the general public hasn't realized that beaver are being killed or their value. A state survey sent some shocking results to many public servants. Here's a link to the survey. [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/ODFW and OWEB - Landowner Beaver Project - Final Report - Needham and Morzillo.pdf](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/docs/ODFW_and_OWEB_-_Landowner_Beaver_Project_-_Final_Report_-_Needham_and_Morzillo.pdf) The vast majority of Oregonians want beaver back in the ecosystem.

We need to pressure the USFWS and NMFS to support beaver protection and restoration. They have the science, but politics is getting in the way. Let's not let sound science and compassion toward the natural world be smothered by a crippling world view that sees everything through the lens of short-term economic efficiency. Support Umpqua Watersheds' effort to bring the beaver back. Let us hear from you.

Stanley Petrowski
Stanley@umpquawatersheds.org
Restoration Committee Chair



Presidents CornerStan Petrowski

The onslaught against the conservation of the natural world is intense on so many levels. “Not to worry!” as the old saying goes. We are undaunted by the immensity of the task and greatly encouraged when steps are taken in the right direction.

This newsletter provides only a small sample of the work that is being conducted by the Board, Staff and volunteers. We continue to need your support. There's no way we can do this alone.

Besides UW tabling the PIELC (Public Interest Environmental Law Conference) event this year, I presented on a panel related to beaver ecology. The rest of the Board spent time networking and learning at the event.

KQUA, Umpqua Watersheds' radio station, continues to improve and evolve. We are learning the art of producing quality conservation and restoration content via radio airwaves. It is surprising to see what it actually takes to get shows on the air.

I travelled to Portland recently to interview Mike Miller and Tasha Thompson for an upcoming radio show. They are the UC Davis salmon geneticists who made the discovery regarding the unique genetic differences between Fall and Spring Chinook. They are continually facing pressure to keep this research from going public. Their work is of the highest standards and may well lead to protection of the Spring Chinook of the Pacific Northwest.

We continue to participate and support collaborative holistic restoration projects throughout the Umpqua. At a recent US Forest Service Town Hall meeting, we were informed that the agency plans to continue to focus on ecological restoration and fire resilience on the public lands. Firefighting is eating up a huge percentage of the agency's budget. We support the efforts that are being made to create a completely separate budget for firefighting and allow the Forest Service to apply its appropriated funds to the tasks for which they were originally designated. Trails and campsites throughout public lands are woefully neglected because of the current system of fiscal management.

Another monumental task at hand is the challenge to our successful efforts for protections of our watershed over the last 20 plus years. Attempts continue to try to undermine NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), the Northwest Forest Plan and a plethora of policies and rules that were put in place to prevent the incessant degradation of habitat that has precipitated the extinction of many species. The Anthropocene extinction is real and we humans are causing it because of blind greed and ignorance.

Forest ecosystems and downstream ecology continue to be adversely impacted by Oregon's Forest Practices Act. For some reason there is a large constituency of people out there that feel private industrial timber land is some sort of sacred cow and untouchable. Pat Quinn (UW Vice President) and I continue to solicit funds to shore up the Summer Low Flow research needed to independently verify low flow dynamics outside of the experimental forests. This work is desperately needed. Pat and I will be attending a workshop at OSU in the coming weeks dedicated to the experimental forest findings. Forest managers and stakeholders are becoming keenly aware of the potential impact of this scientific discovery. We have reached the halfway mark of our fiscal need in this regard.

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We need your help

The Umpqua Watersheds Annual Banquet and Silent Auction is one of the most important fundraisers for the organization. We want to encourage donations from businesses and individuals. If you own a business, consider donating either in the form of your time or a product. Individuals have also donated in the form of trips, adventures, and crafts. If you have a talent or skill, you have a potentially valuable auction item that you can contribute. Past items have included international accommodations, expert advice, fishing trips, home improvement service, and more. Please bring your items and ideas to the Umpqua Watersheds Office. By April 12. We will make use of your tax deductible contribution.

Thank You!



Many of the Umpqua Watersheds faithful attended the 36th annual Public Information Environmental Conference (PIELC). The four-day Conference in Eugene included over 125 panels, workshops, and multi-media presentations addressing a broad spectrum of environmental law and advocacy. Topics included: forest protection and ecological restoration, grazing and mining reform, labor and human rights, air and water pollution, Native American treaty rights, globalization and “free” trade, environmental justice, corporate responsibility, marine wilderness, international environmental law, water rights and dam removal, oil and gas litigation, genetic engineering, and urban growth.

In addition to attending many panel discussion and daily key note addresses, UW members also staffed the UW table. There were over 30 different environmental organizations tabling at the conference.

The Public Interest Environmental Law Conference is the premier annual gathering for environmentalists worldwide, and

is distinguished as the oldest and largest of its kind. The Conference historically unites more than 3,000 activists, attorneys, students, scientists, and concerned citizens from over 50 countries around the globe to share their experience and expertise. The Conference is organized solely by the volunteers of Land Air Water (LAW), a student environmental law society at the University of Oregon School of Law, and is co-sponsored by Friends of Land Air Water (FLAW), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.



A WILDERNESS Book Club

INTRODUCTORY MEETING
MARCH 29, 2018, 7:00 PM AT
THE CASCADIAN COFFEE COMPANY
732 SE CASS ST, ROSEBURG, OR 97470

WE'LL TALK ABOUT CLUB
STRUCTURE, ORGANIZATION
WHAT TO EXPECT AT FUTURE MEETINGS
AND ANNOUNCE THE
FIRST BOOK SELECTION



Conservation Cornerby Joseph Patrick Quinn

Following a full year of environmental threats from the Trump Administration, extractive industries, elected officials at national, state and local levels, Umpqua Watersheds is fighting back. Not content with a purely defensive strategy, we continue to pursue a determined attack on forest management practices that impose unacceptable ecological harm to our degraded watersheds.



Summer Low Flow

In previous editions of the newsletter, we have discussed the issue of chronically depleted summer flows in streams and rivers, local and regional. We have reasonably inferred this condition after reading the Perry and Jones (2016) Study, out of OSU (https://ceoas.oregonstate.edu/people/files/jones/perry_jones_ecohydro_16.pdf)

Decades of paired stream data gathered on the H.J. Andrews and South Umpqua Experimental Forests, concluded that if 50% or more of watershed is converted from primary old growth/mature forest to plantations, summer flows do not return to pre-logging levels that both agency and timber industry representatives claimed would occur in 15-25 years post-harvest. Rather, summer flow was half of its unlogged reference stream, even decades later. The Forest Service data undergirding Perry&Jones revealed that the outcome was evident in every case, regardless of how the experimental watershed had been logged. Low flows have persisted at these study sites for as long 45 years. The environmental implications of such a chronic condition are many, none of them good.

The Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts have begun a return to regeneration harvest; BLM's modified version of the clear cut. We have heavily cited the National

Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in our critical comments of a return to this retrograde management activity by pointing out to public land managers that the public forestlands within the alternating “checkerboard” ownerships are already surrounded by very large and recent clear cuts and monoculture fiber farms on the adjacent private timberlands. In the decades before the Northwest Forest Plan, forest management on all ownerships in the Oregon Coast Ranges and the West Slope of the Cascades focused on the liquidation of old growth forest. The myopic focus by federal forest managers on the O&C Act's sustained yield provision, erroneously confounded the terms “sustained” and “sustainable.” The mandates of the Act to “protect watersheds, regulate streamflow and provide for recreation” were ignored in favor of a period of liquidation of the old growth forest. UW maintains that this history, along with the current private land context on the checkerboard, ought to give the BLM pause as it formulates its extractive plans.

In each case, when our comments were disregarded or wrongly deemed to be irrelevant, UW filed protests with the agency (two with Coos Bay District and three on the Roseburg District). As reported in the last issue of 1,000 Valleys, our protest of the Semaphore Timber Sale was denied. We applied for “standing” to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) and for a “stay” of the logging. Against all odds, we were granted “standing” but to our confusion, at the same time, our petition for a “stay” was denied and the sale purchaser immediately began the harvesting one unit of the sale and dropping trees as much as 250 years old. By the time you receive this edition, all of the sale will have been felled, including one unit measuring a whopping 139 acres! Yes, it is true that green tree and snag retention are significantly better on BLM lands as compared to those logged under the retrograde strictures of the Oregon Forest Practices Act (OFPA). And this difference remains glaring, even with the adoption of its most recent Resource Management Plan, the agency has walked away from a formal adherence to the Northwest Forest Plan by reducing the width of riparian buffers by one half, while at the same time, the Oregon Board of Forestry has widened requisite private land buffers on select small and medium fish bearing streams. The imposition of adding large canopy openings onto landscapes already pocked with an excess of private land clear cuts as well as young even aged plantations, can only serve to worsen the depleted summer flow condition.

Apparently, our citation of the Perry-Jones Study in protests and appeals has created quite a stir in agency and industry circles. A hydrological conference primarily focused on response by federal, state, and private forestland managers has been scheduled for April 4th, at Oregon State University. Although not formally invited, the Chairs of the UW Conservation and Restoration Committees plan to





participate and speak up where appropriate.

In the meantime, we continue to solicit the funds needed to underwrite proposed research whose purpose would be to help establish the wider, perhaps region-wide, relevance of Perry-Jones. We have gathered half of the requisite money and remain hopeful that the entire amount will soon have this research underway. Along with others of high qualification, we are convinced that this issue has the potential to significantly improve forest management practices across all ownerships. Anyone wishing to contribute to the “low flow” effort should contact the UW office for further information on how to help.

Post Fire Salvage

Your Conservation Committee continues to file comments on various post-fire management proposals by the BLM and USFS. Some of these plans are more eco-friendly than others. While the Umpqua National Forest recognizes the beneficial impacts on significant portions of the area where wildfires occurred this past summer, the Rogue River Siskiyou and Klamath National Forests has not. A large salvage has been proposed in the latter. Large salvage plans wreak havoc on natural post-fire recovery. Adding ecological insult to environmental injury, extensive salvage will include an addition to the already considerably heavy imprint of forest roads on these watersheds. Emphatically, we do not agree with this approach and have not been shy about letting these forest managers know that we favor a more conservative treatment.

The latest scientific research has indicated the extraordinary ecological benefits of naturally recovering post-fire landscapes. Wildfire is a natural and necessary aspect of forest evolution in western North American and is of tremendous value to a variety of species from cavity creators and users to a range of native pollinating insects. Contrary to the hyperbole spouted by ill-informed and biased politicians and industry representatives, when a stand burns, more than 90% of its stored carbon remains on site, sequestered in the roots, boles and large branches of the burned trees. Remains, that is, unless it is cut and

hauled away.

Roseburg District of the BLM has asked for scoping comments on its proposed management of public lands within the Horse Prairie Fire perimeter (between Riddle and Camas Valley). Among proposals being offered by the BLM (and USFS) is removal of hazard trees along selected roadways, as well as the creation of strategically located fire breaks. While UW fully appreciates proactive efforts to secure safe passage along forest roads for fire fighters in controlling wind driven wild fire, we have urged the agency to limit green tree and snag removal to roads with the heaviest use and have encouraged them to leave clumps of trees and brush for the benefit of wildlife. Legacy right of way agreements made between federal agencies, especially the BLM and private land owners, too often appear to be little more than an excuse to conduct long running clear cuts through reserves., When trying to mitigate decades of fire suppression, we remain convinced that the best value off effort lies within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Reducing the accumulated fuel load around homes and other structures is a better bargain for the tax paying public than overly aggressive treatments in the back country.

Harmful Right of Way

It has come to our attention recently, that a local private timber company has been granted a right of way across public land to construct a road by the removal of many large old growth trees. This industrial entity claims to need to construct a road in the already heavy road imprinted Little River Drainage to access one of their fiber farm stands. We have requested a meeting with representatives of the Roseburg BLM in order to discuss a possible alternate route, one not located in primary forest on public land.

Stay Active, Stay Engaged

Yes, challenges to watershed conservation and restoration continue apace. It would be all too easy simply to sleep in while this damaging juggernaut rolls over our landscapes, unopposed. Please, for the sake of ourselves and our children and theirs; for the precious natural systems and all of the wonderful flora and fauna high functioning watersheds support, surrender neither to despair nor apathy. Together, with persistence, diligence and passion we can help to move public and even private forest management in a more enlightened and environmentally conscious direction. Beneficiaries of the hard work and sacrifices of the conservationists who preceded us, we owe our own well informed and determined efforts to those generations who will inherit the benefits flowing from conserved and restored watersheds. We hope they will take their own inspiration to participate from what we endeavor to accomplish today.

Facilities Management Committee.... John Hunter



The Umpqua Watersheds Facility Management Committee was formed last Fall and has been busy organizing, securing and improving the property that was a wonderful and needed gift to Umpqua Watersheds from John Stadter. This newly acquired building features 3 street level business offices and an upstairs with office space and meeting rooms. The upstairs portion of the building is home to Umpqua Watersheds, and ComSpan Inc. Umpqua Watersheds uses the bulk of the upstairs for the operation of the non-profit including the KQUA Radio station. Built in 1950, the

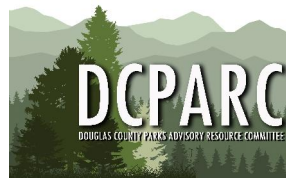
Carter Building has changed ownership several times, but got its name from Marian (Paugh) and Walter Carter Jr.

The Carter building avoided the moderate destruction zone of the 1959 Roseburg blast by one block. The Carter's sold the building to attorney Verden Hockett, of the District Attorney's (DA) Office. He ultimately left the DA's office and went into private practice using an office on the second floor of the Carter Building. In 2003, the building was listed with the United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places as part of the Roseburg Downtown Historic District. Included in the historic designation is a description of the building: "The concrete block two-story office building features metal-frame windows and three office entry doors with transoms on the street level. A stairway to the second floor is on the south end of the building. The second level has three corrugated metal panels in which the metal frame windows are located, plus a metal awning over each window. The panels alternate with the stucco finish of the main portion of the building. In the 1940s the Roseburg News Review office occupied at least a portion of this building." At the time of the listing there were offices including a dog trainer, KLD Financial Services, and WMNI Computer Office (an Internet Service Provider).



With ownership comes responsibility and the goal of the FM committee is to fulfill this mission by becoming familiar with the issues and problems and plan to address them in a fiscally responsible manner. Due to a few recent burglaries, security has been our major concern. We have installed 4 security cameras; 2 in front and 2 in back, along with 2 solar powered motion detectors in the back. A metal security screen has been installed in front of the window that leads to the fire escape. We next plan to address the issue of our leaking roof, as well as replacing the shed roof behind our building. There are plumbing issues to address as well as the usual maintenance problems. Once the immediate problems have been resolved, we can begin to discuss future improvements that will make our building more energy efficient and aesthetically attractive and a community gathering place that will help UW to continue to grow.

We are officially landlords as well. Currently, Get'R Done Salon occupies one of the business offices on the street level. UW is seeking tenants for the other 2 office spaces and continue our obligations as fair and honest landlords. If you are interested in renting one or both office spaces or volunteering labor, materials, or money for any of our projects, please contact John Hunter at goldenarchie46@yahoo.com. Together we can build this gift into a tremendous community asset. We meet the first Tuesday of every month 6pm at the UW office.



This Winter has been a busy time for DCPARC. We have continued to monitor issues concerning Douglas County parks and to bring more transparency to county government.

The County, despite objections from DCPARC's and others, bought a new county park, Umpqua

Dunes County Park, formally known as Discovery Point RV Park. The entire process lacked transparency and was not justified by a cost analysis study.

Meanwhile, many of our forested natural parks have been closed, listed as surplus property to be sold, or possibly logged, all because our parks have "to be run as a business."

The Parks Advisory Board has finally filled their 3 vacant positions. And thanks to our numerous complaints, the board is now more diverse. Robert Johnson, Jody Morrow, and Jerry Chartier (former business partner of retired parks director Gary Groth).

The 2nd hearing before the County Planning Commission for the proposed Lookingglass OHV Park has been moved once again, to June. Complicating this decision is the appointment of OHV Proponent, and Twin Peaks OHV Sales owner, Virgile Osborne to the planning commission board. This is a definite conflict of interest that we will be monitoring.

On a positive note, DCPARC has adopted the Riverside trail section for volunteer cleanup through the City of Roseburg. Our first of 4 clean up dates will be April 14th at 10am. We will be working in coordination with the Blue Zones Project. Feel free to join us in this new community effort.

We also plan to have a booth at this year's Earth Day Fair on 4/21/18. Stop by to visit, buy a raffle ticket, and hopefully win a prize!



Busenbark still remains a focus of our attention. The county has admitted and provided documentation that they did earn more than the original \$385,000 from its logging. This additional \$124,000 went into the parks department, but how that money

was spent is, so far, an unfulfilled request for information. Dr. Ken Carloni, Eric Stauder, and others have begun a dendrochronology study at Busenbark (See Photo). We look forward to their results. Also a "Remember Busenbark" page has been started. Please click on and like us on Facebook. Hopefully there will be more announcements about Busenbark soon.

Another major county issue has been their under reported and down-played is a proposed zoning designation of non-resource land into 20 acre subdivisions. This proposal will probably be approved by the BOC on March 7, 2018 and will result in subsequent appeals by state land use and conservation groups in the state. It is flawed in many ways and will have adverse effects on many issues including, but not limited to, the following: 1) Water availability; 2) Increase the risk of human caused wildfires and increase the cost of fire suppression; 3) Have an adverse effect on not only big game habitat, but all wildlife habitat in these areas and the ecosystems they are dependent upon.; 4) It will increase conflicts between people and wildlife as well as ranchers and owners of these 20 acre parcels. 5) it will provide developers and others the opening they need to begin loosening the long established and highly regarded Oregon Land Use Statues! Obviously, our county government favors actions that are anti-environment. With your support DCPARC will be there to fight them! We meet the third Wednesday of every month, 6 PM at the UW office.

(President's Corner, continued from page 3)

Please consider a donation of any size in support of our work as soon as possible. Designate it to the "Summer Low Flow Study" to make sure it reaches its intended purpose.

As Douglas County's conservation organization, we are buffeted by socio-political forces all the time. The community support of Umpqua Watersheds is not as widespread as it is for other organizations in larger, more diverse communities whose support base is supportive of environmental work. We are here in the heart of old-school timber country where the philosophy of extractive use of our natural resources has been energized by current political trends. That puts the burden of support on us all and especially you to be our community advocates. We are giving all we can. Won't you consider empowering us to keep on keeping on?

Our Annual Banquet is coming up. It's time to bring your auction items to the UW office in preparation for the silent auction. We are pleased that we are striving to be quicker to respond to your calls. Here are a few bullet points of areas that need our attention:

1.) It would be fantastic if we could have a volunteer step up and develop the UW and KQUA web sites. We have the software and content available. Another option would be to hire someone to do that work. If you feel inclined to help us with the sites, please send your support to the UW office with a note designating it to social media development.

2.) The KQUA station itself needs developing. We have room at the office to create a full-fledged recording studio and station broadcasting office. You can help by donating to that project.

3.) All of the committees are working hard to achieve their strategic objectives. The WOW committee's Crater Lake Wilderness campaign coordinator, Robbin Schindele, is going full steam ahead with his energy and skills expanding the scale and scope of the effort. Same with the Education committee. Its needs are ever growing. The Restoration and Outreach committees need your active participation and donations. DC Parks committee is doing all it can to track the clear cutting that the county has been doing on our public parks. Their job seems endless.

Keep in mind that the vast majority of this work is mostly supported by your Board of Directors. Much of what is accomplished is completed by a few people that give freely of their time and resources in order to do those things needed to protect what is left of the natural wonders of our region. Please consider giving to UW, whether it is of your time and expertise to help with building maintenance, serving on an event committee, volunteering for various office tasks, or giving generously to the cause. We immensely appreciate the support that we have been given by our membership and look forward to seeing you at the banquet.



Get Involved! Join a Committee.

Monthly Board of Directors:

When: 3rd Monday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: For board and staff members only. If there is a topic you feel the board should broach let us know so we can put it on the agenda! Reach me at alan@umpquawatersheds.org

Education Committee

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Ken Carloni - ken.carloni@gmail.com

Restoration Committee

When: 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 5:00pm

Where: McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

Contact: Stan Petrowski - Stanley@umpquawatersheds.org

Conservation Committee

When: 1st Monday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: J. Patrick Quinn - jquinn@mydfn.net

Facility Management

When: 1st Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: John Hunter at goldenarchie46@yahoo.com

Wild On Wilderness Committee

When: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office, Downtown Roseburg

Contact: Bob Hoehne - oho937@hotmail.com

Douglas County Parks Resource Advisory Committee (DCPARC):

When: 3rd Wednesday, 6:00pm

Where: McMenamins.

Contact: John Hunter, goldenarchie46@yahoo.com

Monthly snapshot of committee meetings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu
1 st week	Conservation 6pm	Facility Mgt 6pm		
2 nd week		Education 6pm		
3 rd week	BOD 6pm	Restoration 5pm/ Radio 630pm	DCPARC 6pm	
4 th week				
Last week			WOW 6pm	

EDUCATION UPDATE ... Ken Carloni

Along with the amazing work being done with younger students by our AmeriCorps, Christine Smith (see her article in this issue), Umpqua Watersheds continues to support authentic field learning experiences to college students and community members of the 100 Valleys and beyond. Here are some opportunities to get involved:

If you happen to be free from March 22nd to Apr. 1st and are looking to mix adventure with learning about the natural world, join us on our third field tour to Baja! Credit students are currently taking quizzes and other online learning activities in one of UCC's innovative "hybrid" courses, *BI 101A: Evolution, Diversity and Ecology of the Baja Peninsula*. This year we are contracting with the famous Green Tortoise Adventure Travel company and will ride in style on one of their ingenious "sleeper coaches" (www.greentortoise.com).

Along the way, you'll have opportunities to investigate estuary and tide pool habitats, survey the changing desert landscapes, explore historic missions, visit botanical gardens, take a whale-watching tour, ride a rope swing into a freshwater lagoon, and view evocative ancient rock art. We will camp at several locations where we will hike and snorkel as we experience the interplay between land, ocean, sky, and the unique life they support. This year I am particularly excited to be accompanied by Matt Hunter, UCC professor and expert bird-er and herpetologist.

You can help support this unique learning opportunity -- there are still a couple of seats available for community riders! The cost of the tour is a steal at \$989 which covers all transportation, camping and most meals. Contact me at ken.carloni@umpqua.edu for details on the tour itinerary and how to register.

If you can't make the Baja tour but want to experience this unique type of edutourism, I will be teaching another hybrid class focused on botany -- *BOT 204: Flowering Plants of Southwest Oregon and Northern California* -- from June 19th to the 24th. The tour associated with this class explores one of the most botanically diverse regions in the world from the Siskiyou Mts. through the Redwoods, Mt. Shasta and the McCloud River to Burney Falls, up through Lava Beds National Monument to Crater Lake and the North Umpqua before returning to UCC. Email me at the above email address for info on this tour.



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17th **Lookingglass Rock Hike**

March 23-25 **Roseburg Spring Fair**

March 29 **Wilderness Book Club Inaugural Meeting 7 pm, Cascadian Coffee Company**

April 1st **Crater Lake Snowshoe Hike**

April 14th from **Blue Zones Project Trails Day 10am-1pm** <https://www.facebook.com/BlueZonesProjectUmpqua/>

In collaboration with Umpqua Watersheds, has adopted a section of the City of Roseburg's trail system. We will be cleaning and maintaining the section from Fred Meyer to the YMCA. We will be assisting with Umpqua Watersheds in adopting their section of the trail down by the visitors' center. **Meet at Stewart Park.**

April 14th **UW Membership Banquet 5:00 -10:00 PM**

April 21 **Douglas County Earth Day and Energy Fair 10am-4pm, Douglas County Fairgrounds**



KQUA is seeking underwriters for the radio station. Do you have a business and desire to support the radio station of Umpqua Watersheds? Underwriting is a perfect way to both support Umpqua Watersheds and promote your business. Contact Patrick Schneider for more details.

info@kqua.org



AmeriCorps Voice...Christine Smith

I am six months into my AmeriCorps service term and am shocked by how quickly the time has breezed by. So many events that seemed to be in the very distant future—such as the Baja botany tour with UCC—are just around the corner. I have been keeping busy with my involvement in the community. It has been fulfilling to get to know community members and find my niche. I now see familiar faces most everywhere I go!

I have a big heart for service and think it is the most unique way to get to know a community. This led to me planning multiple service events in the late winter season. Over 60 participants came out on Martin Luther King Jr. service day to pick up trash at Stewart Park & Gaddis Park and maintain the quality of our beautiful river. Volunteers braved the cold and picked up a



whopping total of 1.26 tons of trash, the equivalent of 2,520 pounds. We were joined by Blue Zones Project, Source

One Serenity, Casa de Belen, Wolf Creek Job Corps, and many more who came out on their day off to make it a day on. SOLVE Oregon gave us a grant to get lots of supplies for these volunteers.

I've been teaming with the City of Roseburg and Blue Zones Project- Umpqua to develop more projects to get community members active, outside, and working together to do some good. Volunteers planted native trees



at Gaddis Park and also beautified the Stewart Park Butterfly Garden to make it viable habitat for the monarch butterfly migration. I'm excited to see what else is in store.



Forest Thursday at the Boys and Girls Club has been a fun way to teach students about creatures and the workings of forests such as the gorgeous surrounding areas of the Umpqua National Forest. We create new projects every week and often get creative by reusing different things lying around the house such as empty toilet paper rolls and used egg cartons. Rather than toss them out, I save

them to make beautiful masterpieces with youth. Science Wednesday with Eastwood is a 10



week afterschool program that just started and is sure to be a ton of fun.



These future forest stewards are learning basic fifth grade science through hands on projects and also reflecting on what their role is in the world. The first Science Wednesday just happened and the students said they already can't wait for the next one. We take the time each lesson to think about climate change and our personal impact to see how we can be stewards of the earth and its resources.

Spring is sure to be as busy as it is beautiful! Spring calls for botany tours with UCC, more Crater Lake Trips, regular programming, and more. I can't wait to get my hands in the dirt and work towards influencing students to be more environmentally conscious. There is definitely a need for environmental stewardship in Douglas County and I am happy to be a part of the movement.

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